

# SPARC GAP

## ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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P.O. BOX 4026  
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33731

CLUB MEETING ON THE FIRST FRIDAY  
REPEATER MEETING ON THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

F E B R U A R Y 1 9 7 9 .



PRESIDENT JOHN MAC DONALD WD4COL  
3088 COUNTY ROAD 70  
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738-4784

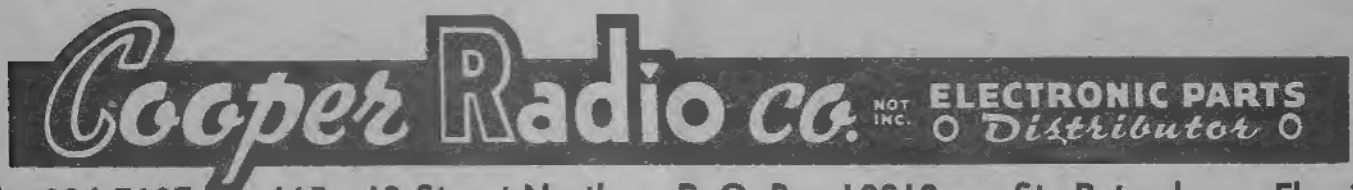
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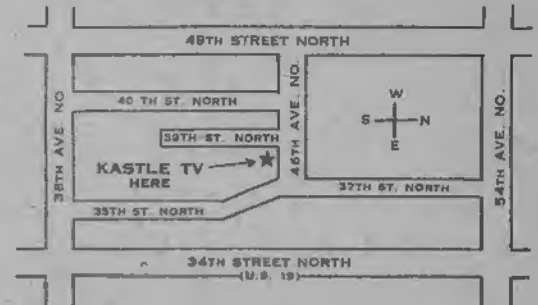
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SPARC GAP

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON FEBRUARY 2, 1979 AT 8:00 P.M. AT THE  
RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS 818 - 4th Street No. St. Pete

Come hear a representative from the Florida Gold Coast Conference  
talk about the plans for the Sand Key Hamfest for 1979.

+++++

The meeting of January 5, 1979 was called to order by Rex Cottrell. Members and guests were welcomed and introduced.

New officers for the year of 1979 were sworn in by David Stocky K4KE. They are as follows: John MacDonald WD4COL, President; Ed Harney K4DRN, Vice President; Faith Lakeman WA4WOU, Secretary; Frank Ryll W4VIP, Treasurer; and Herb Tuell W4IRA, Jack Adams W4NOK, Al Friend W4CF, Board of Directors. Rex Cottrell W4GPL turned the meeting over to our new President John MacDonald.

The minutes of the last meeting were read followed by the Treasurer's Report.

The station report W4GAC was given by Bob Smith WB4OIG. He said that the fate of the Drake and the linear would be decided by a committee in the near future.

Rex W4GPL reported that he has met with the architects for the Red Cross building. They discussed the needs for our station and where it would be placed in the new building plans.

Woody Huddleston K4SCL reported that all control operators were doing a fine job on the repeater, and the repeater was working properly. He said that he had noticed that the repeater I.D. was of a higher pitch and sends faster than normal, but it was not causing any problems.

He said that we can expect delivery anyday now on the new repeater. He is quite anxious to get it on the air and see what it can do.

The Christmas Dinner report was given by Herb Tuell W4IRA. He said that fifty-five members came and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Dale Le Beau W4MUV told about plans the METRO Club is making, to charter a boat for an evening in the Spring. He asked if there would be an interest in our Club participating. More details later. Dale also reported that the direction finder project has been slowed some but is still on going.

The SPARC Hamfest will be held on Sunday May 6, 1979 between 8:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. at the Lake Maggiore Picnic Area. Special appreciation was given to John Merada WB4LWB for his efforts in the planning for this Hamfest.

It was announced that Phil Baggish WB4YKW needs a ride to the University Hospital in Gainesville on February 15, 1979. If anyone can take him up and back the same day, contact John MacDonald WD4COL.

There was a vote to accept Jack Hill W4PPT, Louise Abraham KA4EGY, Mark Harrison KA4BPO and William Ireland KA4AFX as new members.

An ashtray in the shape of a radio complete with mike was donated to the club by Bill Ristau WA4BSH to be auctioned off and the proceeds given to the Club. It was sold to the highest bidder, Dale W4MBV for \$10.00. Special thanks go to Bill.

Andy WB4ALH will be sending Morse Code on 2 meters for anyone interested in increasing their speed. The code practice will be held on Saturday and Sunday evenings between 8:00 and 10:00 P.M. on 147.555.

The meeting adjourned for coffee and doughnuts and was called back to order by President John MacDonald WD4COL.

Woody K4SCL told about the new microwave system used by the police and fire departments for the City of St. Petersburg. He answered many questions and gave a very informative presentation.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Faith WA4WOU

SPARC - GAP

**WD4COL**  
JOHN R. MacDONALD  
BOX 6143  
CLEARWATER, FL 33518

The Prez Sez:

Here it is--my first "Prez Sez"! I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you for your support. It is indeed an honor for me to represent so fine a club as president for the 1979 year. I am looking forward to a big year for the St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club. I have many ideas in store and know that you will enjoy being a member of the club this year.

I have contacted Mr. Ray Lettre of Ray's Amateur Radio concerning prizes to be given away at the meetings. The way in which we give away the prizes is not decided yet, but several ideas have come to mind. Suggestions are accepted and needed! What are your ideas????

I was very pleased at the number of members at the January 5th meeting. A hardy "well done" to Woody Huddleston, K4SCL on his presentation about the communications within the St. Pete Police Department. It was very informative, well presented, and captured the inquisitiveness in all of us. Thanks, Woody. At the February 2nd meeting, Dan Jenkins, WB4TZR will be on hand to present the program. Dan is the newly elected President of the Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council, of which SPARC is a member. Dan is going to tell us a little about the very successful convention and the plans and desires of the council for 1979 and the convention. Since so many of us are involved with the convention, this should be an interesting talk/discussion session. Please be there! I'll be looking for each and every one of you and so will Dan!!!!

Much thanks goes out to--all of the 1978 officers for their excellent leadership--Fran and Thelma for having those goodies at every meeting--Rex, who is going to be club liason to the Red Cross for me along with John W4YTY- and Hank, WA4WKO for his work this year in publicity. New publicity man in Mike Scott. Those of you who know Mike well know that when he gets a job, it gets done well.

Arrn tnx, bcnu, best 73 to all,

*John*

SPARC-GAP

*St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club*  
REPEATER TEAM  
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LARGO, FLORIDA  
33540  
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147.06 OUTPUT

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**WR4ALM**

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# HIS ONE MISTAKE

His one mistake! He brushed his teeth twice a day with a nationally advertised toothpaste. The doctors examined him twice a year. He slept with the windows open. He stuck to a diet with plenty of fresh vegetables. He relinquished his tonsils and traded in several worn-out glands.

He golfed--but never more than 18 holes at a time. He got at least eight hours' sleep every night. He never smoked, drank or lost his temper. He did his "daily dozen" daily. He was all set to live to be a hundred.

The funeral will be held Wednesday. He's survived by eight specialists, three health institutions, two gymnasiums and numerous manufacturers of health foods and antiseptics.

He forgot God, lived as if this world was all, and is now with those who say, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." (Jeremiah 8:20).

Dear Friend: Are you making this mistake? It certainly isn't necessary. The Bible says: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." (Romans 10:9)

For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8:36,37)



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Jan. 9, 1979

### SPARC REPEATER NEWS

Hopefully, by the time you read this, we will have our new repeater with autopatch on the air. It was scheduled for shipment early in January. At this writing, January 9th, we are "on pins and needles" expecting delivery any day. I hope it doesn't turn out like my new Heathkit FM Deviation Meter, which has had three postponements of scheduled shipping date and no kit yet, or like the accessories for my DSI Frequency Meter, bought and paid for on October 2nd but not received yet.

The nationwide Simulated Emergency Test (S.E.T.) is scheduled for January 27-28. Hopefully, you may receive the SPARC GAP by then. Florida Radio Amateurs will be holding a Statewide S.E.T. on February 3-4. We hope you will review the S.E.T. announcement in December QST, pages 77-79, and take part on both week-ends. At this writing it is not clear how our drills will go, but we should make ready our emergency equipment and be ready to respond to any simulated (or real) emergency situations. And don't forget to send at least the two messages recommended in QST.

Last month we outlined a procedure for using autopatch. We received an objection to the requirement of giving the phone number being called, based on reluctance to divulge unlisted numbers of members and friends to be called. I wonder if there are many members who object to giving the number for recorder-logging purposes? This procedure has been widely accepted as a way to fulfill the requirement of identifying the third party for the log. If revealing the phone number is seriously objectionable, I believe we could fulfill legal requirements by stating name and address of party called.

Now that we have received one objection to what we wrote last month, we know that one person read it. Does anybody else read it?

73 de K4SCL

#### OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 738 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 28, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

The Wireless Institute of Australia announces the West Australian 150th Year Celebration Contest. Details were received too late for inclusion in QST. Contest starts at 1800Z on December 31, 1978 ending one year later. The world contacts VK8 stations. You may work each station once per band per mode each day during the year. Details will appear in March QST. AR

#### OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 739 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS — NEWINGTON CT January 4, 1979 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

The composition of the five ARRL Advisory Committees for the coming year has been announced by President Dannals, W2HD. The Contest committee chairman is W1NG with members K2SX W3HQT K4PQL W5MYA N6NB K7GM K8MR K9UTY K0MM and VE7TT. The DX committee chairman is W1OT with members W2XN W3ZN N4MM K5YY N6RJ K7LAY WB8EUN K9AM/W9KNI W0SR and VE3QA. The Emergency Committee chairman is N4NK with members W1XA WB2VUK WA3PZO WA5MLT WB6IZF W7DO WB8GGR W9UMH W0KL and VE5CU. The VHF Repeater committee chairman is K2MZ with members W1GXT W3YVV WA4WTX WA5WDW WA6LBV K7CR W8GRG K9LSB WB0CJX and VE1AIC. The VHF/UHF Committee chairman is W4WD with members W1JR K2RIW W3HMU N5RA WB6NMT W7HR WA8ULG GW3NJY/W9 W0LER and VE3AIB. Correspondence for any of the committees may be addressed directly to the members or routed via the appropriate Headquarters Liaison at ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111. AR

#### OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 737 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 21, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Radio amateurs who have bona fide tapes or transcripts of transmissions from WB6MID/8R3 Jonestown or WB6MNH/8R1 Georgetown are requested to loan these materials to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Please give them to your nearest FBI office, or send to FBI in care of ARRL headquarters, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please mark the tapes/transcripts Jonestown. AR

#### OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 727 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT OCTOBER 5, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Attention repeater operators. The deadline for information to update the ARRL Repeater Directory will be November 1, 1978. Please submit any additions, deletions or corrections by November 1 to assure inclusion in the 1979 edition. Send information promptly to ARRL Hq., 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. AR

## W4GPL

C. E. "Rex" COTTRELL  
800 Bay Point Drive  
Madeira Beach, Fla.  
33708

January 7, 1979

Just a note of Thanks:

Our Good Friend, Scholar, Man About Town and one of the Fla. Power Corp. guiding lights, Mr Dave Stocky (K4KE) gave a very appreciated performance at our January 5th SPARC meeting. With the sangfroid and casualness of an old hand, Dave made the Club Elected Officers for 1979 official by swearing them in for their various duties.

For 1979 we will have the following officials:

Pres	John MacDonald	WD4COL
V.Pres	Ed Harney	K4DHN
Sec.	Faith Lakeman	WA4WOU
Tres.	Frank Ryll	W4VIP

Board of Directors :

Jack Adams	W4NOK	Also Editor of SPARC GAP
Al Friend	W4CF	
Herb Tuell	W4IRA	

Also on the Board:

Woodie Huddleston	K4SCL	Trustee of WR4AIM
John Smith	W4ACG	Trustee of W4GAC
Rex Cottrell	W4GPL	1978 Pres.

Our new Pres. WD4COL assumed his new duties and did a very creditable take-off on his new job with the Club.

The writer wishes to say, "THANKS SO MUCH to SPARC members for the cooperation and cheerfulness shown to the club officers this past year". With out your attendance and assistance, we could never have had the past years success.

Vy 73 es 88

*Rex*

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 736 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 14, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Attention Contest participants. The 32nd ARRL VHF Sweepstakes will be held starting at 1800Z Saturday, January 13, 1979 and ending at 0400Z Monday, January 15, 1979. Please remember the mailing deadline for logs to be submitted in the 160 Meter Contest is December 29, 1978. For the 10 Meter Contest logs must be mailed by January 5, 1979. Certificates for winners listed in recent issues of QST have been delayed at the printer but will be forthcoming. AR

\*\*\*\*\*  
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me, you have lost nothing;  
but if you meet JESUS  
CHRIST and forget Him  
you have lost everything.*



\*\*\*\*\*  
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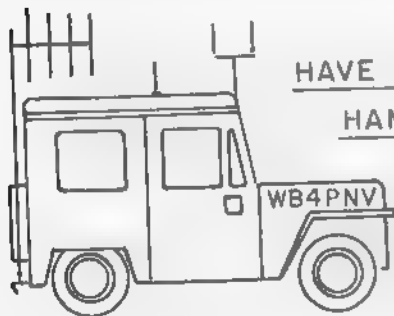
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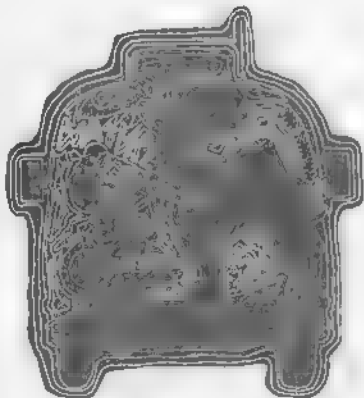
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CONSTRUCTION NOTES ON SIMPLE 2 METER 1/4 WAVE ANTENNA

"Jack" Saunders (for Linda, WA4HKP)

The antenna described below was constructed in accordance with verbal instructions given by Kim Cole, WB4ARZ/WA0MAA, but with modifications. Kim said he had used a PL-258 as the base and soldered 3 radials and vertical element made from coat hanger wires to the PL-258.

We wound up with a bit more sophisticated type antenna because of parts and time available. Construction was begun with a 2-1/2" OD round washer drilled with a 5/8" hole in the center to mount the SO-239. Four clearance holes were drilled in the washer and the holes in the SO-239 were tapped for 8-32 screws. The washer was then drilled with 4 holes to mount the radials. The SO-239 was mounted on the washer with 8-32 x 3/8" screws. Next, we flattened 1" of both ends of 3/8" tubing and drilled one end of each of the four pieces to clear #10 screws. The radials were mounted on the washer using 10-32 x 3/8" screws, washers and nuts, then cutting the radials to approximately 19-1/2" each. The vertical was then cut so that the two sections could be adjusted between 18" to 21" and soldered to the center of the SO-239.

In order to better protect this "jewel" from the Gulf salt spray, we formed a mold around the base of the radials and vertical and encapsulated approximately 1-1/2" deep and 3" round with clear polyester casting resin. When the resin had set we removed the mold and masking tape, then sanded and smoothed the rough edges.

Still not satisfied, we masked the vertical and threads of the SO-239 and spray painted the washer, hardware and radials with gold lacquer.

The antenna was then mounted atop a section of TV mast using 3 screws tapped into the mast to hold the PL-259 and RG-8/U cable running inside the mast section.

After initial tryout with SWR meter, the vertical and radials were adjusted or cut for best reception and transmission. The final installation was completed with the radials cut to approximately 19-3/8" each and the vertical at 19-1/4".

This antenna was originally installed about 3 years ago at 21' above ground level and has consistently enabled Linda to reach the Tampa Bay area and Manasota repeaters from the South Pasadena location. When conditions are good she also reaches the Orlando area. It was recently raised to 35' above ground and seems to be working perfectly.

## PARTS LIST:

- 1 2-1/2" OD round x 1/8" thick washer (saved from cutting meter hole in panel)
- 1 SO-239 coaxial panel connector
- 4 8-32 x 3/8" screws (to mount SO-239)
- 4 pcs 3/8" OD aluminum tubing, each 20" long (salvaged from old TV antenna)
- 4 10-32 x 3/8" screws, washers & nuts (to mount radials)
- 1 Radio antenna, adjustable from 18" to 21" (salvaged from old transistor radio)
- Polyester clear resin casting compound
- Spray lacquer

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 724 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT SEPTEMBER 7 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS B

Legally blind applicants can now be tested by volunteer examiners. Applicants must submit FCC Form 610 along with a physician's certification of legal blindness, and a letter requesting a volunteer examiner, to the nearest FCC field office. FCC will then appoint an examiner. Amateurs are urged to sign up with FCC to become volunteer examiners for blind and physically handicapped applicants. AR

SPARC-GAP

HISTORY OF  
ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Continued

DECEMBER

The election of officers created such an interest many of the old timers returned to SPARC. It was a happy reunion. The following were elected:

President, WA4CIL-Dolph Moebs; Vice-President, W4OHJ-Jack Greene; Secty-Treas., W4WPF-Marvin Kaniss; Directors: W4UFR-Earl; W4RUR-Ed; W4NOK-Jack; with hold over officers: Past President, K4USK-Jim Dillman & Trustee, W4WPF-Marvin.

The last meeting of the year was December 29th, when our annual Xmas Party, with Dick-W4KCG, his Mother-Carol & Al-WA4BCW in charge. It was a gala party enjoyed by all. During this month SPARC decided to honor all present & past officers, since incorporation, with a certificate of commendation. Incentive license still boiling. Hll So endeth 1963. Amen!!!

1964

JANUARY

The Installation of Officers Banquet was held at the Kapok Tree Inn. Those installed were: President, WA4CIL-Dolph Moebs; Vice-Pres., W4OHJ-Jack Greene; Secty-Treas., W4WPF-Marvin Kaniss; Directors: W4UFR-Earl Hill; W4RUR-Ed Blatt; W4NOK-Jack Adams; & W4WPF-Marvin remained Trustee. (Special Note: All installed officers listed with a W call). A certificate was issued to all past officers by SPARC-GAP for the recognition of achievement as officers of SPARC.

FEBRUARY

Biographical sketch was run on Earl Hill-W4UFR, a charter member & many times an officer. Eulogy to John Fitzgerald Kennedy received wide acclaim. While it was anonymous, it was supposed to be written by an 8 year old girl.

MARCH

Gordon Barnes was a speaker at one of our March meetings with a very interesting talk on "Filling the Gap in Education". SPARC announced that SPARC-GAP would accept advertising. Plans for the Hamfest in May were made. A biographical sketch was run on Shirley Hill-W4WPD; another charter member & past officer.

APRIL

SPARC-GAP came out with a new format-part mimeo & part offset. First 100% supporters with advertising: Kastle TV; West Coast Hardware; Gordon Barnes; Hal Clayton; Jack Greene; Marvin Kaniss; Amateur Radio Club of Florida; Central Insurance Agency; Isle Varieties; Ed Blatt; & Ralphs Valve Grinding.

MAY

Hamfest held at Phillippe Park on the 17th. It was a huge success, spark-plugged by Dolph-WA4CIL; Jack-W4OHJ as MC & many other big & little helpers.

JUNE

SPARC-GAP went completely offset. Summertime movies were started from ARRL. The SAGS were given a nice write up & donors to the Hamfest were announced. The big event was the beautiful slides & narration by Marian Barkley, XYL of Doc-W4PT.

JULY

ARRL movies big success & announced to be carried on till September. The original charter members were listed. Big blow to SPARC & Amateur Radio was the untimely & unexpected death of W4WPF-Marvin Kaniss, who was serving in the capacity of Secty.-Treas. of our Club, as well as station trustee for W4GAC.

AUGUST

Editor, W4NOK-Jack has had many QSOs with WA4CIL, W4OHJ & others from New Jersey at his station WA2RMC. Cathy gave a nice report on her trip to YLRL Convention.

Compiled By Cathy Soehl  
W4BAV

Continued Next Month

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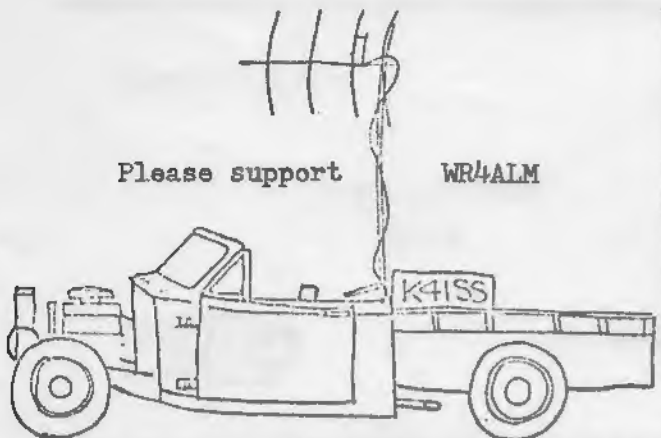


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